

THE CHARMS OF TARRYTOWN

A WESTCHESTER VILLAGE FAMOUS IN HISTORY AND LITERATURE.

WASHINGTON IRVING'S HOME AND THE SLEEPY HOLLOW CEMETERY—WHERE MAN AND NATURE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER IN CARRYING OUT THE GOSPEL OF BEAUTY AND PEACE.

The reader who has followed The Tribune on its tour through beautiful Westchester, who has seen its groves and forests, its fertile fields, its palaces, its castles by the sea, and its stately mansions whose spires and towers rise above the forest giants that surround them, who has followed the guide over fields made beautiful by the hand of man and over fields sacred because of their association with the events which shaped the destiny of this country and of the civilized world, is to see in Tarrytown and its neighboring villages new features of attractiveness. Here, added to beauty of scene and historic associations, is the charm of poetry, the glamour cast about a place which has sheltered one who has written himself into fame and who is remembered as a pioneer in American literature. The memory of Washington Irving is held dear by the residents of his old home and his spirit permeates all the place.

The township of Greenburgh, in which much of the scene of to-day's sketch is situated, was originally a part of the manor of Philipsburg, and received its present name in 1788. The original manor extended from Spuyten Duyvil Creek to the Croton River and from the Hudson to the Bronx River. Frederick Phillips had purchased great tracts of land of the Indians in Greenburgh, and how he paid for them is shown by records still in existence. Drygoods, kitchen utensils, guns, powder, rum, etc., were legal-tender in those days, and were given in exchange for the eighty square miles of land which constituted the manor. The Phillips

Hudson. To look upon its grass-grown yard, where the sunbeams seem to sleep so quietly, one would think that there at least the dead might rest in peace.

SLEEPY HOLLOW CEMETERY.

Near by, agreeable to his wish, Washington Irving is buried. The Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, to which he gave its name, although it contains now over 14,000 dead and although it has grown until it covers now about one hundred and fifty acres, is still the restful spot that it was when he spoke of it as a place of peace. The visitor to Tarrytown usually makes this his first trip. A beautiful soldier's monument stands at the entrance to the cemetery, and shows that the present as well as the past is represented in the inclosure. The poet lies buried next to his mother and his brother Ebenezer. A simple white stone at the grave is inscribed:

WASHINGTON IRVING.
Born April 3, 1783.
Died November 28, 1859.

A part of the cemetery was fortified during the Revolution, and many of those who fought under Washington are buried there. The grass-grown plain has been the subject of much of Washington Irving's writings. Among other things descriptive of its restfulness he says:

"I recollect that, when a stripling, my first exploit in squirrel-shooting was in a grove of tall walnut trees that shaded one side of the valley. I had wandered into it at noontide, when all nature is peculiarly quiet, and was startled by the roar of a cannon. I broke the Sabbath stillness around, and was prolonged and reverberated by the anarchy. If ever I should wish for a retreat whither I might steal from the world and its distractions, and dream quietly away the remnant of a troubled life, I know of none more promising than this little place."

The old Van Tassel Inn still stands in Broadway. This was the coaching place of the patriot during the Revolution, and bears marks of the British cannon shots. Another place of historic interest in the Odell Inn, at Abbottford, below Irving-

in September, 1860. Samuel J. Tilden presided and Chauncey M. Depew delivered the oration. A bronze statue of heroic size, intended to represent Paulding, surmounts the top of the monument. The statue was the gift of John Anderson, a citizen of Tarrytown.

One of the inscriptions is a quotation from a letter of the General Washington. The south side bears the following inscription:

On this spot
the 23d day of September, 1780, the Spy,
Major John André,
Adjutant-General of the British Army, was captured by
John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Wart,
all natives of this county.
History has told the rest.

HOMES OF WEALTH AND REFINEMENT.

Leaving the monument behind and going south on the post road, the architectural beauties of the place and the triumphs of landscape gardening which have made Tarrytown famous are seen, as



THE MISSES MASTERS' SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

well as the natural beauties of the river, with which it runs parallel. The various palatial country seats are all so beautiful, so perfect in their appointments, that a passing glance such as they receive in a sketch like this fails to do them justice. Among the homes which attract attention are those of Benedict Cobb, Major R. F. Hopkins, Mrs. George Lewis, Robert Hoe, John D. Archibald, Joseph Eastman, Mrs. Timothy C. Eastman, George B. Newton, John T. Terry and B. S. Clark.

Then one sees the ruins of Albert Bierstadt's home and studio, the homes of Isaac and Louis Stern, the place of Rosewell Sisk and the Jay Stern. The Halstead place, the home of H. R. Worthington and the E. S. Jaffray estate are among the last of the fine homes within the Tarrytown line, but the traveler has left behind, on high ground and away from the river, are those of S. Schiefel, W. N. Crane, Robert Sewell, Colonel Sigafus, William H. Webb, Mrs. W. H. Raymond, and the west porch of the Raymond home the view on the Hudson panorama is one of the finest to be obtained in whole neighborhood.

Once more on the post road, past the Jaffray, the J. C. Fargo and the Moses Grinnell places, the visitor goes down a narrow lane-like road, which is lined with ancient trees, to Sunnyside, the most southerly point of Tarrytown, where the name of Irving is closely associated.

WHERE IRVING LIVED AND WORKED.

Much has been written about the home of Washington Irving, but his own description of the cottage at Sunnyside, as he speaks of it in "Wolfert's Roost," is probably the best. He says: "It is a little old-fashioned stone mansion, all made up of gable ends, and as full of angles and corners as an old cocked hat. It is said, in fact, to have been modeled after the cocked hat of Peter the Headstrong, as the English was modeled after the gridiron of the blessed St. Lawrence. Though but of small dimensions, yet, like many small people, it is of mighty spirit, and prides itself greatly on its antiquity, being one of the oldest edifices for its size in the whole country. It claims to be an ancient seat of empire. I may say, rather, an empire in itself."

THE VILLAGE OF TO-DAY.

But it is the Tarrytown of to-day which is interesting as well as the village of long ago. The wind-erect which leads from the water's edge and from the railroad station to the business part of the village is modern in its width and pavement. There is everything about the station to indicate wealth and refinement. Besides the fine building, the garden-like grounds at once attract the visitor's attention, and one is at once favorably impressed. In the business centre there are large brick stores, the postoffice is large and roomy, the people about the place have a metropolitan air, and the place resembles a little city, except that one looks in vain for the evidences of poverty and vice which one sees so quickly in a city.

"Our prosperity began," said an old and well-posted resident, "in 1851, when the New-York Central Railroad began operations, and we have prospered ever since. There is not a village of its size in the country," he added, "in which so much wealth is represented, and I doubt whether a community can be found that takes more pride in its place than we have here. We never have a failure among our business men, because the conservative spirit of the first Dutch settlers has descended to the present generation and the spirit of thrift is just as strongly developed in them as it was in their fathers. And you must not forget," he continued enthusiastically, "that we have the most charming place on the banks of the Hudson. The wealthy people of New-York discovered that years ago and made it their summer home, and it has been and always will remain an ideal place of residence. Now, add to all this the fact that every inch of ground is replete with historic associations. That it was the scene not only of contests between the Americans and the British, but of terrible contests between the patriots and Tories, that it was overrun by cowboys and by skimmers, and that finally it was the scene of the capture of André, and there seems to be good reason why the place should be popular. And add to all this the fact which some would mention first, that Tarrytown was the home of Washington Irving, and you will not wonder that the place should be a popular one."

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOMES.

On the way toward the cemetery the post road leads through a forest-like strip. The forest does not end even after one passes the stone and iron gateway which leads to the Monroe place. The Phelps place is the next to attract one's attention. Its main entrance is opposite the old Croton aqueduct, which runs parallel with the road some distance. Beyond the cemetery, surrounded by a massive wall, at which a solid-looking granite porter's lodge stands guard is Rockwood Hall, the country seat of William Rockefeller, which is probably one of the most beautiful residences in the country. The castle-like building cannot be seen from the road, but one has glimpses of the big greenhouses and the spires of some of the smaller buildings. But a drive through the place on the well-kept, perfectly shaded roads reveals a scene of beauty the crowning point of which is the granite castle which stands on the highest point of the vast estate. The view of the river and the country for miles around and the exquisite beauty of the place should be a lasting impression on one who is fortunate enough to see them.

THE ANDRÉ MONUMENT.

The next drive which the native will suggest will be to the André monument. This stands at the entrance to Brookside Park near the home of Eugene Jones. André was buried at Tappan, at the foot of the gallows on which he was hanged, and in August, 1821, his bones were exhumed and returned to England and buried in Westminster Abbey. A monument was erected to the spy long before those who captured him were remembered. The cornerstone of the André monument in Tarrytown was laid by Colonel James A. Hamilton, a son of Alexander Hamilton, on July 4, 1853, and the shaft was dedicated in 1853. The new monument was dedicated

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TARRYTOWN'S MATERIAL SIDE.

The most important financial institution of the village is the Tarrytown National Bank. Its last statement shows that it has a capital of \$200,000 and a surplus of \$20,000. It has a safe deposit vault, and

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is as fully equipped for all kinds of banking business as its metropolitan neighbors. The officers are: President, Robert A. Patterson; cashier, William D. Humphreys; directors, Frederick W. Gulten, Lucius T. Yale, Moses W. Taylor, Nathaniel Lawrence, Samuel Scott, William A. Burnham, Robert A. Patterson.

The Westchester County Savings Bank was incorporated in 1837 and does a thriving business. Benson Ferris is president and Elmer T. Willsea secretary.

Two newspapers are published in the place. "The Tarrytown Argus" is the older paper. D. D. Raymond is its editor and proprietor, and W. H. Ely is the Editor of "The Press-Record." The resident of Tarrytown is proud of his village, sees only good in what it is and what it does. At the present moment he is enthusiastic about the new asphalt paved pavement which is being laid, but he can be persuaded to drop even this weighty theme when the matter of fire department is broached. He is particularly proud of that part of the village manly, and the average citizen thinks there is no such fire department anywhere along the Hudson



THE MISSES MASTERS' SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

River as that of which William R. Nossiter is the chief.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS IN PLENTY.

Tarrytown has more churches within its borders than most places of its size. They are all interesting structures, some because of their historic associations and others because of their solidity and modern and beautiful style of architecture. Christ Church bears on its outer wall a tablet to the memory of Washington Irving, which says that he "was a communicant and a worshiper of this church and repeatedly one of its delegates to the

CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE.

Loved, honored, revered, he fell asleep in Jesus November 28, 1859. This tablet is erected to his memory by the Vestry.

The Rev. Dr. J. K. Allen is the pastor of Christ Church. The Rev. E. B. Rier is the rector of St. Mark's. There are two Reformed churches in the place, the Rev. Dr. J. K. Allen is the pastor of the First and the Rev. Arthur Mabon of the Second.

The Rev. W. H. C. Compton is the pastor of the Ashbury Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. G. A. Ogg is pastor of the Methodist Protestant congregation.

The pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church is the Rev. Dr. R. H. Travis, and the Baptist Church is at present without a pastor. There is a German Lutheran congregation in the place, whose pastor is the Rev. G. A. T. Gobel, and a Roman Catholic Church in charge of Father Kenny.

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climax of a long-continued, gigantic struggle, the glorious consummation of what had been through so many dark years so ardently hoped for. The papers there signed gave freedom to a nation and initiated another grand test of republican institutions."

Dobbs Ferry, like Tarrytown, occupies ground which was confiscated because Frederick Phillips sided with the King during the Revolutionary struggle, and the original titles were issued through the Commissioners of Forfeitures.

Just as many residents of Dobbs Ferry are anxious to have the name of the place changed because the average man associates their beautiful village with the prison, so have many residents of Dobbs Ferry urged the substitution of an appropriate name for that of Dobbs, after a man who had done nothing to warrant the honor.

WHY THE NAME WAS NOT CHANGED.

An amusing story is told in this connection by Mr. Bradley. He says that at a meeting of citizens called to consider the matter of changing the name of the place, the name of Paulding had almost been agreed upon when an incident occurred which spoiled it all. "The meeting was grave, dignified, deliberate," he says, "until just as it was about to close in seeming accord, when a gentleman who had been a quiet listener arose to speak. He said that he had been much interested; he was no worshiper of Dobbs, he disliked that his home should be identified with a ferry; double names were especially uncouth and undesirable; he had known Paulding personally and could not brook him. Van Wart, who also had sided in the capture of André, had been a Christian gentleman; he therefore moved that the meeting strike off the name of Paulding and substitute the name of Van Wart. This speech delighted him in dead the-Hudson." This speech delighted him in dead the-Hudson. This speech delighted him in dead the-Hudson.

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ply system of New-York, gives employment to a number of people who live in the place. The place most of the places along the river in Westchester County. Croton has its historical points, as well as places connected with the legends and stories of the Hudson. About one and a half miles from the village, toward Sing Sing, stands the old Croton dam. In its day it was looked upon as a grand mansion, and great entertainments were given under its roof when the lord of the manor lived there. It is still in a good state of preservation, and the natives delight in showing it to the visitor. Opposite the village, nearly on a line with the place where the Croton flows now stands, is the point of land from which the patriots shot at the Vulture at the time of the André-Arnold incident.

On the old post road, which runs through the upper part of the Croton, stands the old Dutch place, which in its day was used as an inn. Opposite this house stands the modest cottage occupied by Dr. Stevens. Higher up, on a hill which overlooks the village, stands the old Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest church in the village, and in which it is said that Wilford once preached.

The Friends meeting-house also casts its shadow on the graves of many of the first members of the society. Near the meeting-house stands a smaller building, now occupied by Francis and Coriella Hains, which was used by the Friends as a house of worship after the separation took place.